



ASSEMBLYMEMBER NICOLE PARRA

Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

July 7, 2006

Hello Friends:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT

Well, it is finally summer and I will be spending the next month at home and in my district. I imagine there will be a number of highlights from spending time with all of my constituents, but this week, I want to focus on two special highlights:

- When I think **Bakersfield**, I think **Milt Younger**. As a lifelong resident of **Bakersfield** and **Kern County**, you have touched the lives of so many people by being a true citizen of our community. Over the last 46 years, your legal work on behalf of injured workers has led to stricter enforcement of safety regulations. Your leadership has given hope to so many injured employees because you have shown them that someone does care about the challenges they face. It is both an honor and a pleasure to convey to you my most heartfelt wishes to you for a very happy and joyous birthday. You are truly a guiding light for us all to follow, and **Bakersfield** and **Kern County** are better places because of your tireless efforts.
- It is also my since pleasure to congratulate **Allen Montes** on his appointment as **Battalion Chief of the Kern County Fire Department**. **Allen** has shown a strong devotion to public service and I am certain he will do a fantastic job for Kern County's firefighters.

NOW, TO THE REST OF MY WEEK IN SACRAMENTO

This week, I had the chance to meet with **Rey Leon** of the **Central Valley Air Quality (CVAQ) Coalition**. **Rey** stopped by my **Hanford** office to discuss legislation relating to air quality matters in the **Central Valley**.

The **CVAQ** is a collection of over 65 community, medical, public health, environmental and environmental justice groups from the **San Joaquin Valley**. These groups work together, with the goal of improving Californians' health by ensuring that the federal **Clean Air Act** is fully adhered to in the **San Joaquin Valley**; improving **California** law and local regulations on air quality; and informing residents of the **San Joaquin Valley** about the negative effects of air pollution.

To learn more about the **CVAQ**, please check their web site at <http://www.calcleanair.org/>

I also attended a great **agri-business luncheon** sponsored by the **Hanford Chamber of Commerce**. At the event, we listened to keynote speaker, **George Soares**, the founder and managing partner of **Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP**. **George** gave an insightful account of his life story and his career as a lobbyist.

This fabulous event was sponsored by the **Hanford Chamber of Commerce**, the **Kings County Agriculture Department**, the **Kings County Farm Bureau**, the **Kings County Water District**, the **Kings Fair**, the **Lakeside Irrigation Water District**, and the **USDA Farm Service Agency**.

I am already looking forward to next year's luncheon!

If you are interested in reading more about events organized by the **Hanford Chamber of Commerce**, please have a look at their web site <http://www.hanfordchamber.com/>

Also this week, as part of the **Kings Fair Kickoff**, I co-hosted an informational public safety booth at the Fair. Joining me was **Chief Reuben Shortnacy** of the **Corcoran Police Department** and **Shirley Goins, Executive Director of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**. We discussed a number of different public safety topics, but focused more pointedly on identity theft and child safety awareness. It was a good turnout and I look forward to participating in this great event again next year.

If you would like to find more information on the **Corcoran Police Department**, please access their web site at <http://www.cityofcorcoran.com/pd.htm> and for information on the **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children** view their web site www.missingkids.com/

This morning, I traveled to the **City of Avenal** where I met with **Mayor Sid Craighead, City Manager Melissa Whitten**, and **Bill Wooley, Vice-Principal of the Reef-Sunset Middle School**. We had a great conversation about the extraordinary session on state prisons that **Governor Schwarzenegger** has called and how this might affect **Avenal State Prison**. Additionally, we talked about additional funding coming to Avenal to keep up the fight against the production and distribution of methamphetamine products.

Later in the day, I stopped by the **Avenal Senior Center** for lunch and a few rounds of bingo with some of the **Center's** residents. I had an awesome time visiting with members of **Avenal's senior community** and look forward to my next visit.

To close out my visit to **Avenal**, I paid a visit to the **Sheriff's sub-station**, where I met with **Commander Dave Putnam**, who just began his tenure as commander at the station. We discussed a number of issues affecting **Avenal**, including the influx of gangs and the spread of methamphetamine in the area.

Earlier this afternoon, I spent time meeting with **Barry Bedwell** of the **California Grape and Tree Fruit League**. We had a good conversation about a number of the legislative issues affecting the **Grape and Tree Fruit League**.

If you would like to find out more about the **Grape and Tree Fruit League**, please take a minute and check out their web site www.cgftfl.com/

Tonight I will be attending and speaking at the **Girls State Session Inaugural Ceremony** at **Fresno State University**. I will be addressing these exceptional young women about the importance of being involved in your community and the democratic process. Later in the evening, I will have the pleasure of administering the oath of office to the statewide elected officials of **Girls State**.

Girls State began in 1940 and involved 125 students from across **California**. Since that time, it has developed into a program including more than 500 young women entering their final year of high school. Each of these young women represents the very best of what their community has to offer.

This promises to be an extraordinary evening, as I am always delighted to be in the presence of **California's leaders of tomorrow**. Congratulations to all of tonight's participants on their dedication and their desire to excel.

HELPFUL LINKS

Operation Hero Miles

<http://www.heromiles.org/>
Care Packages for Soldiers
<http://anysoldier.com/>

County Information:

Fresno
<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/portal/>
Kings
<http://www.countyofkings.com/>

Kern
<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/>
Tulare
<http://www.co.tulare.ca.us/>

City Information:

Coalinga
www.coalinga.com
Kingsburg
www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/
Corcoran
<http://www.cityofcorcoran.com/>

Huron
www.fresnocog.org/city1/city_of_huron.htm
Avenal
<http://www.avenalcalifornia.com/>
Hanford
<http://www.ci.hanford.ca.us/>

Lemoore
<http://www.lemoore.com/>
Bakersfield
<http://www.bakersfieldcity.us/>
McFarland
<http://www.mcfarlandcity.org/>
Wasco
<http://www.ci.wasco.ca.us/>

Arvin
<http://www.arvin.org/>
Delano
<http://www.delano-ca.org/default.htm>
Shafter
<http://www.shafter.com/>

NEED HOMEWORK HELP?

The **California State Library** has made available through their website a new service called **Live Homework Help**. This service enables students to connect on-line with a tutor for assistance with homework questions. Supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funding, students can access Live Homework Help through [28 California public libraries](#). It is important to note that the tutors who respond to student questions are screened, trained, and closely monitored.

Live Homework Help is easy! Log on to <http://www.library.ca.gov/tutor/> from your computer any time between 1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. and follow the simple setup instructions.

MEETING REQUESTS

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Anna Goddard** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Anna.Goddard@asm.ca.gov.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the **30th Assembly District**, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the **Central Valley**. Applications can be found by going to:
<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Richard Valle** at (559) 585-7170 or by e-mail at Richard.Valle@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Paula DeLaRiva** at (661) 334-3745 or by e-mail at

Paula.DeLaRiva@asm.ca.gov.

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at Brandon.Sanders@asm.ca.gov.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1846 - U.S. annexation of California was proclaimed at Monterey after the surrender of a Mexican garrison.

1898 - The United States annexed Hawaii.

1930 - Construction began on Boulder Dam, later Hoover Dam, on the Colorado River.

1981 - U.S. President Reagan announced he was nominating Arizona Judge Sandra Day O'Connor to become the first female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

2005 - In London, at least 66 people were killed and at least 700 were injured when several bombs were set off in subway cars and double-decker buses.

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